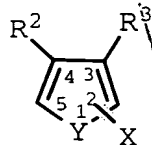


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of Formula I



I

wherein Y is selected from S, O, and  $\text{NR}^1$ ;

wherein  $\text{R}^1$  is selected from hydrido and  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl;

wherein X is one or more substituents selected from

- 10 a) hydrido, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy, acyl, lower alkyl substituted at a substitutable position with a substituent selected from halo, hydroxyl, amino, acylamino, lower alkylamino, lower alkyl(acyl)amino, acyl, aryl optionally substituted with hydroxyl, a heterocyclic group, hydroxyimino and lower alkoxyimino, lower alkenyl optionally substituted at a substitutable position with cyano, amino optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from acyl and lower alkylsulfonyl, sulfo, sulfamoyl optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo(lower)alkyl, aryl, hydroxyl, lower alkylamino(lower)alkyl, a heterocyclic group and (esterified carboxy)lower alkyl, N-containing heterocyclicsulfonyl, a heterocyclic group optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, oxo, amino and lower alkylamino, provided that when Y is O or  $\text{NR}^1$  then X cannot be hydroxyalkyl,
- 25 b)  $\text{S}(\text{O})_n\text{R}^5$ , wherein  $\text{R}^5$  is  $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6$  alkyl optionally substituted at a substitutable position with fluoro, and n is 0, 1 or 2,

c)  $C(R^6)(OR^8)(R^7)$  wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  independently are selected from  $CF_3$ ,  $CF_2H$ ,  $CFC1_2$ ,  $CF_2Cl$ ,  $CClFH$ ,  $CCl_2F$ ,  $CF_3CF_2$  and  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl, and wherein  $R^8$  is selected from hydrido,  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl, (C1-C3 alkyl)C(O) and  $CO_2R^9$ , wherein  $R^9$  is  $C_1$ - $C_4$  alkyl,

d)  $C(O)ZR^4$ , wherein Z is O, N, or S, and  $R^4$  is selected from hydrido,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkyl and aryl, and when Z is N then  $R^4$  is independently taken twice,

e)  $C(R^9)(NHR^{11})(R^{10})$ , wherein  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are independently selected from  $CF_3$ ,  $CF_2H$ ,  $CFC1_2$ ,  $CF_2Cl$ ,  $CClFH$  and  $CCl_2H$ , and  $R^{11}$  is selected from hydrido and  $C_1$ - $C_3$  alkyl, and

f)  $Si(R^{12})(R^{13})(R^{14})$ , wherein  $R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  are independently selected from hydrido,  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_7$  optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo,  $C_2$ - $C_7$  alkenyl, phenyl and benzyl, provided that the sum of the number of carbon atoms in  $R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  must be at least 1 and not greater than 9, and further provided that no more than 2 of  $R^{12}$ ,  $R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  are alkoxy; and wherein  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently selected from

g) aryl or heteroaryl, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl radical is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, nitro, amide, amino, lower alkylamino, sulfamyl and lower alkylsulfonylamino,

h) para-phenylene-Q wherein Q is  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl or  $NR^{15}R^{16}$ , wherein  $R^{15}$  and  $R^{16}$  are independently  $C_1$ - $C_2$  alkyl,

i) p-Q<sup>1</sup>(m-Q<sup>2</sup>)phenylene, wherein Q<sup>1</sup> is selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkoxy, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl)amino and S(O)<sub>n</sub>R<sup>17</sup>, wherein R<sup>17</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub> or C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>; and wherein Q<sup>2</sup> is selected from hydrido, fluoro and chloro, and n is 0, 1 or 2; provided that both Q<sup>1</sup> and Q<sup>2</sup> cannot both be hydrido at the same time, and

j) phenylene-W wherein W is alkylamino; provided that

R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> cannot both be phenyl; further provided that when Y is S, then R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> cannot both be 3,5-dihalophenyl; further provided that if X is hydrido, then R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are not both p-methoxyphenyl, p-chlorophenyl, p-methylphenyl, p-bromophenyl, or 2-naphthyl; further provided that if X is hydrido, nitro, bromo, CO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl, benzoyl or CO<sub>2</sub>H, then R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are not both p-methoxyphenyl; and further provided that when Y is NR<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently aryl optionally substituted at a substitutable position with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, halo, nitro or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkoxy, then X cannot be hydrido, -CO<sub>2</sub>H or -CO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of from one to four carbons; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound of Claim 1 wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently pyridyl or para-phenylene-Q, wherein Q is selected from C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, or NR<sup>15</sup>R<sup>16</sup>; wherein R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> are independently C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

3. A compound of Claim 1 wherein X is S(O)<sub>n</sub>R<sup>5</sup>, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub> alkyl optionally substituted at a substitutable position with fluoro,

and n is 0, 1 or 2; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

4. A compound of Claim 1 wherein  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently pyridyl or p- $Q^1$ (m- $Q^2$ )phenylene, wherein  $Q^1$  is selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo,  $NO_2$ , C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkoxy, di(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl)amino and  $S(O)_nR^{17}$ , wherein  $R^{17}$  is  $CH_3$  or  $C_2H_5$ ; and wherein  $Q^2$  is selected from hydrido, fluoro and chloro, and n is 0, 1 or 2; provided that both  $Q^1$  and  $Q^2$  cannot both be hydrido at the same time; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5. A compound of Claim 1 wherein X is  $C(R^6)(OR^8)(R^7)$  wherein  $R^6$  and  $R^7$  independently are selected from  $CF_3$ ,  $CF_2H$ ,  $CFCl_2$ ,  $CF_2Cl$ ,  $CClFH$ ,  $CCl_2F$ ,  $CF_3CF_2$  and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkyl; wherein  $R^8$  is selected from hydrido, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl)C(O) and  $CO_2R^9$ ; and wherein  $R^9$  is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub> alkyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

6. A compound of Claim 1 wherein X is  $C(R^9)(NHR^{11})(R^{10})$ , wherein  $R^9$  and  $R^{10}$  are independently selected from  $CF_3$ ,  $CF_2H$ ,  $CFCl_2$ ,  $CF_2Cl$ ,  $CClFH$  and  $CCl_2H$ , and  $R^{11}$  is selected from hydrido and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

7. A compound of Claim 1 wherein  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  are independently selected from aryl and heteroaryl, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl radical is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, nitro, amino, lower alkylamino, sulfamyl and lower

alkylsulfonylamino; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

8. A compound of Claim 1 wherein X is  
5 Si(R<sup>12</sup>)(R<sup>13</sup>)(R<sup>14</sup>), wherein R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> are  
independently selected from hydrido, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub> alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-  
C<sub>7</sub> optionally substituted at a substitutable position  
with a radical selected from halo, C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>7</sub> alkenyl,  
phenyl and benzyl, provided that the sum of the number  
10 of carbon atoms in R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> must be at least 1  
and not greater than 9, and further provided that no  
more than 2 of R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> are alkoxy; or a  
pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15 9. Compound of Claim 1 wherein X is one or  
two substituents selected from hydrido, halo, cyano,  
nitro, hydroxyl, acyl, lower alkyl substituted at a  
substitutable position with a substituent selected  
from halo, hydroxyl, amino, acylamino, lower  
20 alkylamino, lower alkyl(acyl)amino, acyl, aryl  
optionally substituted with hydroxyl, a heterocyclic  
group, hydroxyimino and lower alkoxyimino, lower  
alkenyl optionally substituted at a substitutable  
position with cyano, amino optionally substituted at a  
25 substitutable position with a radical selected from  
acyl and lower alkylsulfonyl, sulfo, sulfamoyl  
optionally substituted with a substituent selected  
from the group consisting of lower alkyl,  
halo(lower)alkyl, aryl, hydroxyl, lower  
30 alkylamino(lower)alkyl, a heterocyclic group and  
(esterified carboxy)lower alkyl, N-containing  
heterocyclicsulfonyl, a heterocyclic group optionally  
substituted at a substitutable position with a  
substituent selected from the group consisting of  
35 hydroxyl, oxo, amino and lower alkylamino; and wherein  
R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from aryl and

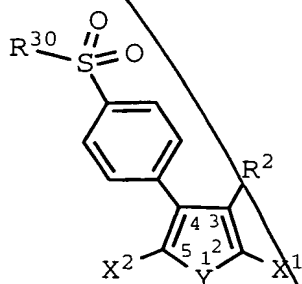
heteroaryl, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl radical is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, nitro, amino, amide, lower alkylamino, sulfamyl and lower alkylsulfonylamino; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

10. Compound of Claim 9 wherein Y is S or O; wherein X is one or two substituents selected from hydrido, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxyl, carboxy, lower alkoxy, carbonyl, lower alkyl substituted at a substitutable position with a substituent selected from halo, hydroxyl, amino, acylamino, lower alkylamino, lower alkyl(acyl)amino, lower alkoxy, carbonyl, carboxy, a heterocyclic group, hydroxyimino and lower alkoxyimino, lower alkenyl optionally substituted at a substitutable position with cyano, amino optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from acyl and lower alkylsulfonyl, sulfo, sulfamoyl optionally substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of lower alkyl, halo(lower)alkyl, aryl, hydroxyl, lower alkylamino(lower)alkyl, a heterocyclic group and (alkoxy, carbonyl)lower alkyl, N-containing heterocyclicsulfonyl, a heterocyclic group optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a substituent selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, oxo, amino and lower alkylamino; and wherein R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> are independently selected from aryl and heteroaryl, wherein the aryl or heteroaryl radical is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylthio, lower alkylsulfinyl, lower alkylsulfonyl, nitro, amino, amide, lower alkylamino,

sulfamyl and lower alkylsulfonylamino; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound of Claim 10 wherein X is one or two substituents selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo and iodo; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

12. A compound of Formula II



II

wherein Y is selected from O, S and NR<sup>1</sup>;  
 wherein R<sup>1</sup> is selected from hydrido and lower alkyl;  
 wherein X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> are independently selected from hydrido, halo, lower alkoxy carbonyl and carboxyl;  
 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is selected from aryl and heteroaryl;  
 wherein R<sup>2</sup> is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo, lower alkoxy and lower alkyl; and  
 wherein R<sup>30</sup> is selected from amino and lower alkyl;  
 or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

13. Compound of Claim 12 wherein Y is O or S;

wherein R<sup>2</sup> is selected from phenyl, naphthyl, biphenyl, and pyridyl; wherein R<sup>2</sup> is optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from halo, lower alkoxy and lower alkyl; and

wherein R<sup>30</sup> is selected from amino and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub> alkyl;  
or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

5 14. Compound of Claim 13 wherein X<sup>1</sup> and X<sup>2</sup> are independently selected from hydrido, fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methoxycarbonyl, ethoxycarbonyl and carboxyl;

wherein R<sup>2</sup> is phenyl or pyridyl; wherein R<sup>2</sup> is  
10 optionally substituted at a substitutable position with a radical selected from fluoro, chloro, bromo, iodo, methoxy, ethoxy, methyl and ethyl; and  
wherein R<sup>30</sup> is amino or methyl;  
or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

15 15. Compound of Claim 14 selected from compounds and their pharmaceutically-acceptable salts, of the group consisting of  
4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)  
20 thiophene;  
4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,5-dibromothiophene;  
4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-bromothiophene;  
25 ethyl[3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-fluorophenyl)thien-2-yl]carboxylate;  
2-ethoxycarbonyl-4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)thienyl-5-carboxylic acid;  
4-(4-fluorophenyl)-3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)  
30 thienyl-2,5-dicarboxylic acid;  
4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)thiophene;  
4-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-3-(4-methoxyphenyl)-2-bromothiophene;  
35 3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-4-phenyl-thiophene;  
3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-4-(4-methylphenyl)



thiophene;  
3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)-4-(2-methyl-4-  
fluorophenyl)thiophene;  
2-fluoro-5-[3-(4-methylsulfonylphenyl)  
5 thien-4-yl]pyridine;  
4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)thien-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2,5-dibromo-thien-4-  
yl]benzenesulfonamide;  
4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-bromo-thien-4-yl]  
10 benzenesulfonamide; and  
3-(4-fluorophenyl)-4-(methylsulfonylphenyl)furan.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
a therapeutically-effective amount of an  
15 antiinflammatory compound, said compound selected from  
a compound of Claim 1; or a pharmaceutically-  
acceptable salt thereof.

17. A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
20 a therapeutically-effective amount of an  
antiinflammatory compound, said compound selected from  
a compound of Claim 12; or a pharmaceutically-  
acceptable salt thereof.

18. A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
25 a therapeutically-effective amount of an  
antiinflammatory compound, said compound selected from  
a compound of Claim 13; or a pharmaceutically-  
acceptable salt thereof.

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising  
30 a therapeutically-effective amount of an  
antiinflammatory compound, said compound selected from  
a compound of Claim 14; or a pharmaceutically-  
35 acceptable salt thereof.

20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a therapeutically-effective amount of an antiinflammatory compound, said compound selected from a compound of Claim 15; or a pharmaceutically-  
5 acceptable salt thereof.

21. The composition of Claim 20 wherein the compound is 4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)thien-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically-  
10 acceptable salt thereof.

22. The composition of Claim 20 wherein the compound is 4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-bromo-thien-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically-  
15 acceptable salt thereof.

23. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject having such  
20 inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Claim 1.

24. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject having such  
25 inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Claim 12.

25. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject having such  
30 inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Claim 13.

26. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject having such inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Claim 14.

27. A method of treating inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, said method comprising administering to a subject having such inflammation or an inflammation-associated disorder, a therapeutically-effective amount of a compound of Claim 15.

28. The method of Claim 28 wherein the compound is 4-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)thien-3-yl]benzenesulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

29. The method of Claim 28 wherein the compound is 4-[3-(4-fluorophenyl)-2-bromo-thien-4-yl]benzenesulfonamide; or a pharmaceutically-acceptable salt thereof.

30. The method of Claim 23 for use in treatment of inflammation.

31. The method of Claim 23 for use in treatment of an inflammation-associated disorder.

32. The method of Claim 31 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is arthritis.

33. The method of Claim 31 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is pain.

34. The method of Claim 31 wherein the inflammation-associated disorder is fever.

*add*  
*act*  
*CI*  
*add 72*